

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1           1.       A modular cornice system, comprising:  
2           at least one substantially rigid face section;  
3           at least one substantially rigid return section having a connector configured to  
4 couple the return section and the face section; and  
5           at least one retainer on the face section configured to engage a bracket for  
6 attaching the cornice system to a mounting surface.
- 1           2.       The system of Claim 1 wherein the face section further comprises a  
2 front side having a contoured surface and a back side.
- 1           3.       The system of Claim 2 further comprising at least one slot-like opening  
2 extending at least partially along the front side and configured to retain a cover  
3 material applied over at least a portion of the face section.
- 1           4.       The system of Claim 3 further comprising at least one slot-like opening  
2 extending at least partially along the back side and configured to retain the cover  
3 material.
- 1           5.       The system of Claim 3 wherein the cover material comprises one or  
2 more fabric or textile materials.
- 1           6.       The system of Claim 1 further comprising at least one trim member  
2 configured to connect with at least one of the face section and the return section.
- 1           7.       The system of Claim 6 wherein the trim member is a plurality of trim  
2 member segments.
- 1           8.       The system of Claim 6 wherein the trim member further comprises a  
2 projection configured to engage an opening on at least one of the face section and  
3 return section.

1           9.       The system of Claim 1 wherein the return section further comprises  
2 separate interconnectable pieces.

1           10.      The system of Claim 1 wherein the at least one substantially rigid face  
2 section is two or more interconnectable face sections.

1           11.      The system of Claim 10 further comprising at least one connector  
2 configured to interconnect the two or more face sections.

1           12.      The system of Claim 1 wherein the retainer further comprises a  
2 projection configured to slidably engage the bracket.

1           13.      A modular decorating system for use with at least one cover material,  
2 comprising:  
3           an elongated member having a front side with a contoured surface and a back  
4 side;  
5           return members having at least one connector configured to couple with  
6 opposite ends of the elongated member in a substantially U shaped configuration;  
7           at least one substantially nondeformable opening on at least one of the front  
8 side and the back side configured to receive a portion of the cover material;  
9           so that the cover material may be applied over at least a portion of the  
10 elongated member to conform to the contoured surface.

1           14.      The system of Claim 13 wherein the cover material is selected from the  
2 group consisting of a coating, a paint, a stain, a wallpaper, a fabric, a textile material,  
3 and an appliqué.

1           15.      The system of Claim 14 wherein the cover material is a fabric  
2 configured to be at least partially tucked into the opening.

1           16.      The system of Claim 13 wherein the contoured surface further  
2 comprises at least one arched section.

1           17.      The system of Claim 16 wherein the opening comprises a slot-like  
2 opening adjacent the arched section.

1           18.     The system of Claim 17 wherein the opening further comprises a pair  
2     of slot-like openings on the back side.

1           19.     The system of Claim 13 further comprising an insert member  
2     configured to engage the opening.

1           20.     The system of Claim 19 wherein the insert member is formed  
2     substantially in a T shape and configured to tuck the cover material into the opening.

1           21.     The system of Claim 13 further comprising at least one trim piece  
2     having a decorative profile and coupled to at least one of the elongated member and  
3     the return member.

1           22.     The system of Claim 21 wherein the at least one trim piece comprises  
2     multiple trim piece segments.

1           23.     The system of Claim 13 wherein at least one of the elongated member  
2     and return member further comprise a textured surface.

1           24.     The system of Claim 13 further comprising at least one projection  
2     extending from the back side and configured to slidably engage a bracket for movably  
3     mounting the elongated member to a mounting surface.

1           25.     The system of Claim 13 wherein the return members further comprise  
2     tabs configured to support the contoured surface when the return members are  
3     coupled to the elongated members.

1           26.     A commercial product in the form of a kit for a modular cornice  
2     system, comprising:

3             at least one substantially rigid face panel having a front side with a contoured  
4     surface and at least one opening, and a back side with at least one opening; and  
5             side panels having an integrally formed connector configured to interconnect  
6     with the face panel.

1           27.     The commercial product of Claim 26 further comprising instructions.

1           28.     The commercial product of Claim 26 wherein the at least one opening  
2 comprises a slot and a cavity.

1           29.     The commercial product of Claim 28 wherein the cavity comprises a  
2 generally cylindrical shape configured to receive at least one cover material tucked  
3 through the slot.

1           30.     The commercial product of Claim 26 wherein the at least one  
2 substantially rigid face panel is two or more face panels that are configured to  
3 interconnect.

1           31.     The commercial product of Claim 30 further comprising a connector  
2 configured to join the face panels.

1           32.     The commercial product of Claim 31 wherein the connector is a  
2 substantially cylindrical member configured to engage corresponding structure on the  
3 face panels.

1           33.     The commercial product of Claim 26 wherein the face panel is  
2 configured to be cut to a desired length by a user.

1           34.     The commercial product of Claim 26 further comprising at least one  
2 trim member configured to connect with the at least one of the face panel and the side  
3 panel.

1           35.     The commercial product of Claim 26 further comprising at least one  
2 clip for securing a cover material to the side panel.

1           36.     The commercial product of Claim 26 wherein the side panel comprises  
2 separate pieces that may be coupled by connectors so that a gap exists between the  
3 separate pieces.

1           37.     The commercial product of Claim 36 wherein the separate pieces have  
2     a contour configured to form a contoured surface that generally corresponds to the  
3     contoured surface of the face panel when the pieces are coupled by the connectors.

1           38.     A cornice system, comprising:  
2             at least one first panel having a contoured surface and at least one substantially  
3     inflexible slot-like opening; and  
4             at least two second panels having a first end with at least one connector for  
5     coupling the second panel to the first panel; and  
6             a retainer on the first panel configured to movably mount the first panel and  
7     the second panel to a mounting surface.

1           39.     The system of Claim 38 further comprising a cover material applied at  
2     least partially over at least one of the first panel and the second panels.

1           40.     The system of Claim 39 wherein the cover material is selected from the  
2     group consisting of a coating, a paint, a stain, a wallpaper, a fabric, a textile material,  
3     and an appliqué.

1           41.     The system of Claim 40 wherein the slot-like opening comprises a  
2     cavity configured to receive and retain the cover material.

1           42.     The system of Claim 41 further comprising an insert member  
2     configured to insert the cover material through the slot-like opening.

1           43.     The system of Claim 42 wherein the insert member is a substantially T  
2     shaped member configured to remain within the slot-like opening.

1           44.     The system of Claim 38 further comprising at least one trim member  
2     configured to connect to at least one of a top or a bottom of the first panel.

1           45.     The system of Claim 44 wherein the trim member comprises a gap  
2     configured to retain a portion of a cover material.

1           46.     The system of Claim 44 wherein the trim member comprises a side  
2 panel connectible to the second panel.

1           47.     The system of Claim 38 wherein the at least one substantially  
2 inflexible slot-like opening comprises at least two openings on a front side of the first  
3 panel so that a cover material tucked within the openings may be conformed to the  
4 contoured surface.

1           48.     The system of Claim 47 wherein the at least one substantially  
2 inflexible slot-like opening comprises at least two openings on a back side of the first  
3 panel so that a cover material tucked within the openings may be conformed around a  
4 top and a bottom of the first panel.

1           49.     The system of Claim 38 wherein the first panel, the slot-like opening  
2 and the retainer are integrally formed as a single extruded member.

1           50.     The system of Claim 38 wherein at least one of the first panel and the  
2 second panel are formed from a plastic material.